

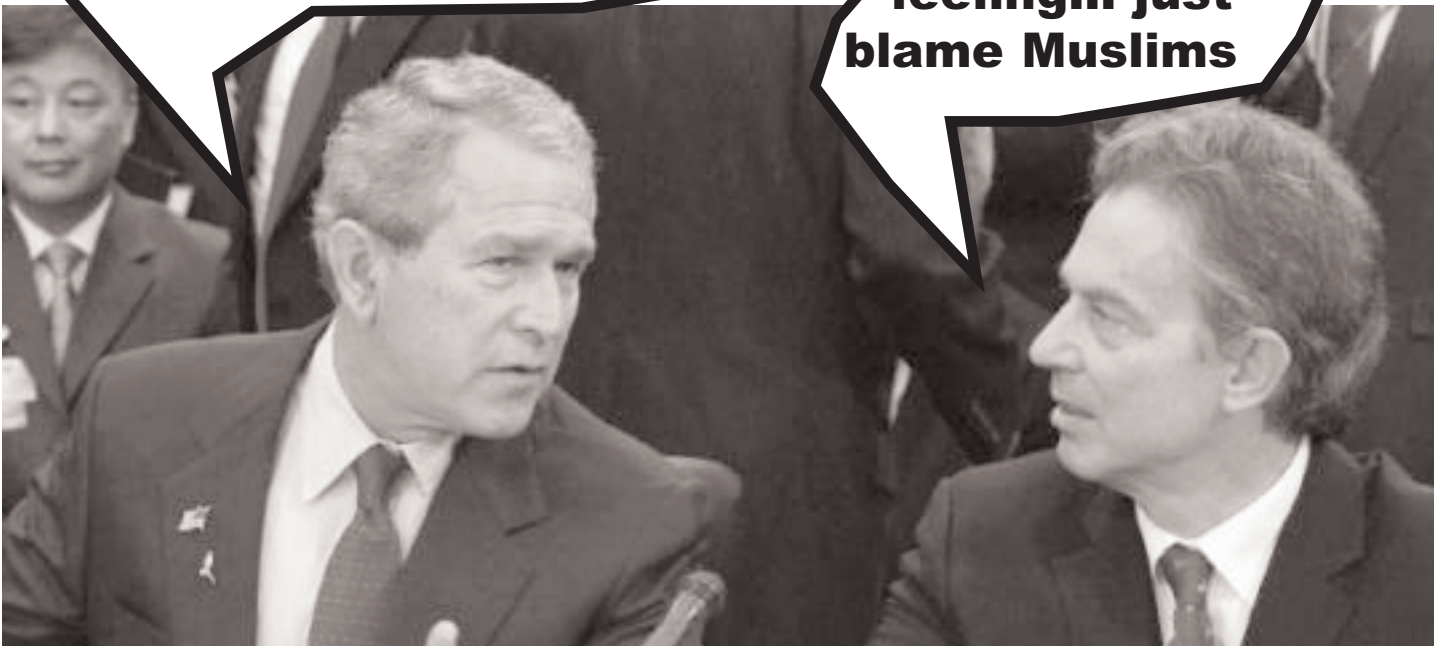
REVOLUTION

socialist youth movement

30P / DONATION

Tony...
I'm having some
trouble in the polls...

I know the
feeling... just
blame Muslims



• Muslims are not to blame for Iraq Crisis •

TROOPS OUT NOW!

DEFEND MUSLIMS!

also inside

• huge climate change demo • a verdict
made in America • iraq occupation in
crisis • defending abortion rights in Manc

don't trust the state

So, after two years of demonstrations and speculations, Nick Griffin (British national party Chairman, and veteran Nazi) and Mark Collett (Former BNP youth leader, and protégé of Griffin) walked free from court on Friday 10th November. Despite making thoroughly racist comments that referred to refugees and Muslims as "evil" and "cockroaches", a jury found them not guilty of incitement to racial hatred.

The prosecution were unable to prove that Griffin and Collett had actually intended to stir up racial hatred; instead, the jury believed the defence's argument that they were merely "motivating the party". It seemed pretty clear to those assembled on the right side of the barriers that the BNP leader had meant to incite hatred, but British law makes it hard to prove intent in such cases. It is necessary for the defendant to actually state intent to secure a prosecution. Griffin has been a rabble-rouser since the seventies. He denies the holocaust, and has spent his life building a violently fascist movement. Collett has been caught on tape before unabashedly stating that he envies the people of Nazi Germany. You can be pretty certain that Griffin and Collett were guilty.

The experience of the last couple of years has proved the absolute futility of using the state apparatus and the courts to deal with fascists in Britain. New Labour has made recent attacks against Muslims, in particular Jack Straw's recent comments about the Hijab. They have to defend an illegal war in Iraq. Any persecution of Muslims is fine with the government. As for Asylum Seekers, New Labour and the Tories clamber over each other each day to try and prove to the racists that they will be "tougher" on asylum seekers. No court controlled by the current system will punish a person for restating exactly what they say themselves.

Gordon Brown has promised to try and review the law in order to make prosecution of the BNP members easier in the future.

Socialists reject out of hand these laws.

Even if Griffin and Collett had been imprisoned for the full 7 years available to the judge, then what good would it have done? They and their party would flaunt themselves around as the anti-establishment rogues who say "what must be said". It would blind the public to the truth, which is that fascism is a movement designed to prolong the rule of the establishment through violence. Only a mass anti-fascist movement that gives radical political solutions to the rise of the BNP can make these arguments.

At the moment the state, with its anti-terror laws and ID cards, is going to great lengths to suppress the radical left and social movements. It would therefore be incredibly naïve to think that it would not use laws which attack peoples right to free speech to persecute the left.

The protests outside the court were small showing that we still need to really build the movement. Not just around the trial, but around the year with effective action. We need to challenge the lies of the BNP with class based reasoning, and put forward a revolutionary socialist alternative.

If you are disgusted by what the BNP leaders have said, and want fascism off your streets, then I urge you to get involved with REVOLUTION and any anti-fascist activity in your area. UAF and REVOLUTION can give you details of what's happening in your area. The mass movement will be built of people like you.

By Mike, Leeds

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anti-Imperialism

Resisting Bush and Blair's "war on terror" at home and abroad, a weekend of debate and discussion with Workers Power

Where: Leeds University Student Union

When: 25-26 November

First session starts at 1:00pm Saturday

£5 waged £2.50 unwaged/student

If you are interested in coming along and discussing the future of the struggle against Blair, Bush, globalisation and imperialist war then get in touch with Workers Power on 0207 708 0224 or email workerspower@btopenworld.com

Sessions Include:

- Victory to the resistance in Iraq and Palestine!
- Struggles in the heart of the beast - Germany, France, USA
- After Blair: a period of conflict in Britain
- From protest to power: a programme for world revolution

Anti-BNP Demo Report

On Wednesday 1st November BNP leader Nick Griffin and his side kick, self proclaimed Nazi Mark Collett, were in court faced with charges relating to the incitement of racial hatred. The BNP had called a national rally outside Leeds Crown Court to offer support to the fascist duo and were met by a counter demonstration of approximately 100 anti-fascist activists from across Leeds.

The fascists and anti-fascists stood on opposite sides of the street outside the court with copious amounts of police in between. At about 9am a large contingent of university students joined the demonstration, having marched from the Parkinson Steps down to the court. There were many different groups of people on the counter demonstration, ranging from school students to trade union activists of all ethnic backgrounds, all ready to show the BNP scum what they thought of them.

Surprise, surprise, the Police were on the side of the fascists - anti-fascists kept being told to get back behind the barriers whereas fascists were allowed free movement and many stood outside of the barriers. When Griffin and Collett arrived at court, police moved in to escort them through and protect them from anti-fascists. As usual, the not-so-friendly fascist photographers were out taking photos of anti-fascist activists to put up on their website, Redwatch. One Redwatch member claimed to be a freelance photographer when he was challenged after refusing to stop taking photos. Sure enough the photos were put on Redwatch the next day.

Despite being out-numbered by the fascists, the anti-fascists were much livelier and managed to drown out the fascists numerous times with chants such as, "1,2,3,4, kick the fascists to the floor, 5,6,7,8, no trust in a racist state", which makes it clear that the state cannot be trusted to deal with fascism and that we need to counter fascism on the streets with organised self-defence. There is no denying the turn out on the UAF demonstration was disappointing and significantly smaller than the Court demonstrations last year. The fascists out numbered the anti-fascist by as much as four to one at some points. Clearly, we have some way to go to building the mass anti-fascist movement, rooted in working class communities which can smash the BNP.

By Jane, Leeds

MANCHESTER UNI DEMO:

Fight for your right to choose!

On Wed 8th November REVOLUTION took part in a demonstration at Manchester University against the current attacks on a woman's right to choose. Outside the Student Union around 40 people gathered to protest for a woman's right to abortion on demand, carrying placards with the slogan 'Your body, Your Choice' and chanting "Not the church and not the state. Women must decide their fate!"

The current restrictive abortion legislation in Britain means that abortion is illegal unless a woman's decision is sanctioned by two GPs - the only medical procedure in the country requiring the consent of two doctors. However, not content with this current burden, along with the postcode lottery in provision of abortion services, the anti-choice lobby has moved to introduce even more constrictive legislation. Following a hysterical anti-choice campaign by the press employing pseudo-science - the 4D pictures of foetal development in the woman's womb - 130 MPs have signed a parliamentary 'Early Day Motion' calling for a 'review' of the abortion law. The motion, however, is mainly backed by Tories and its primary sponsor is Geraldine Smith

MP, member of the All Party Parliamentary 'Pro-Life' group. Quite clearly this review is aimed at restricting women's right to abortion and lowering the time limit.

All these issues came up in a meeting held

abortion law review. The truth is that regardless of how picturesque the 4D images might be, they provide no new insights into our knowledge of foetal development. Furthermore, this latest attack on a woman's right to choose was also explained in the context of women's wider oppression in capitalist society. Restricting a woman's access to abortion is part and parcel of forcing women into the repressive role of mother where, because of unsatisfactory childcare provision, they will be forced to perform free labour in the home and be reduced to a

reserve army of labour easily exploitable in insecure, low paid, part time work with poor working conditions, all at great benefit to the capitalist class. A pertinent example of this sexist agenda are the new federal guidelines produced this summer in America that advise women to consider themselves as 'pre-pregnant', in effect reducing woman to acting as mere incubators to such an extent as to routinely take folic acid tablets. However the moral hypocrisy and double standards of this legislation are glaring when you consider that no mention is made of 'pre-fertilisers' (i.e. men) in these guidelines despite evi-

dence, for example, showing a link between male alcoholism and defects in babies.

As part of the University's Pro-Choice week the film 'The Last Abortion Clinic' was shown documenting the situation in Mississippi where as consequence of a vociferous crusade by anti-choice groups there is only one clinic providing abortion left in the entire state. The state does provide family planning clinics which provide free pregnancy test on condition that the woman has to take a sonogram and listen to the heartbeat of the foetus - such is the emotional blackmail the anti-choice lobby will subject women to. One owner of a clinic that does provide abortion described how the 'Pro-Life' lobby only care for the foetus in the womb and that a few offerings of baby formula and a pram after the pregnancy are no serious help towards helping a family or caring for the child's welfare. The emptiness of the alleged concern for the foetus on the part of the so called 'Pro-Life' lobby is readily apparent when you consider their wilful ignorance over the fact that America, for example, despite being the richest country in the world has an appallingly high infant mortality rate more indicative of the third world than a developed country.

Across the world 200 women die every day from the result of unsafe backstreet abortions yet this doesn't unsettle the fundamental anti-choice lobby one bit. It's quite clear that 'Pro-Life, your name's a lie! You don't care if women die! Given the increasing number of women that will die as a result of the recent criminalisation of abortion in Nicaragua and its continued status of illegality in Ireland and other countries across the globe (26% of the world's population live in countries in which abortion is entirely prohibited) what's needed is a working class women's movement, to fight for the right of women to have access to abortion on demand and free childcare to enable women to have control over their lives.

By Gordon, Manchester

REVOLUTION 3



Not just a great movement of the past - women across the world are still fighting for abortion rights today

after the protest with talks from a representative of Abortion Rights and REVOLUTION member Rebecca. At the meeting, in place of the misinformation offered by the tabloid trash, it was made clear that the main medical professional bodies concerned - British Medical Association, Royal College of Obstetricians and Royal College of Nurses - have all rejected the calls for the

*donald rumsfeld
is wanker of the
month...*



"Eat kung-fu ninja fist, pinko biatch!"

Ah, American politicians - hardly known among the left-leaning community for their tactfulness, integrity or intelligence. In fact, it is far easier to list the never ending flow of childish mistakes and idiocies littering almost every speech than to find a policy or decision even vaguely drifting in the direction of social equality or peace. However, despite numerous runners-up, few can

match the sheer record of a certain Mr Rumsfeld in regards to being a true, all-American wanker. Not only has his most recent escapade as Bush's slightly-more-intelligent-capitalist-war-monger proven his 'valour' in the field of capitalist imperialism, but he also served as Secretary of Defense for a certain somewhat incompetent Mr President Ford (1975-1977) as well as various positions under (and, presumably on top, if the positions were various...) Mr Buttocks-And-Nose Nixon. Just to boost his reputation of being the ultimate presidential lackey one step further, it's worth mentioning he served 4 terms in the US House Of Representatives, as well as being US Ambassador to NATO. In this time all manner of rather wanker-ish atrocities have ensued, not least of which being to defend the Bush administration's choice to detain enemy forces without protection under the Geneva convention, in doing so striking a blow for inhumane jerk-offs everywhere.

The lazy sod can't even be bothered to write his own signature on condolence letters to the families of dead soldiers, instead opting for a signing machine no doubt paid for with the money he magically acquired (through no form of corruption either, he'll have you know) from the producers of a certain bird flu treatment known as "Tamiflu."

By Morgan (making this column his own)

Stop the rise of Islamophobia!

By Jo in Leeds

Defend Muslims from racist attacks!

Islamophobia has become the legitimate racism of our time. As the “war on terror” hits huge resistance across the Middle East, the British government tries to shift the blame for the horrors unfolding there on to its victims - Muslim people - and away from the British and American governments that sent soldiers to die for an imperial war.

This explains the recent wave of attacks on Muslim people that has included:

- o Police attacks on Muslims: the shooting of innocent Muslims (or just people suspected of being Muslims!) in Stockwell and Forest Gate in the name of fighting the “war on terror” at home.

- o Islamophobia being enshrined in law: new legislation gives gives airport staff the right to search Muslims disproportionately more, labelling every Muslim as a suspected terrorist.

- o Racism from Labour ministers: John Reid and Jack Straw have become the darlings of the right wing press for 'tackling the Muslim issue'

- o Physical attacks: attacks on Muslims have rocketed as organised racists and the far right are emboldened by the racist climate.

Labour Ministers: experts in “reasonable” racism

It was John Reid and Jack Straw, two senior Labour government ministers, that stepped up and legitimised the vicious campaign against Muslim people, being waged by the right wing press. John Reid asked Muslim parents to spy on their children for signs of terrorism. Then, in a clearly orchestrated publicity stunt designed to appeal to racists in his Blackburn constituency, Jack Straw revealed that he asked Muslim women who visited him to remove the veil.

REVOLUTION 4

Why? Because, he argued, it was a “symbol of separations”.

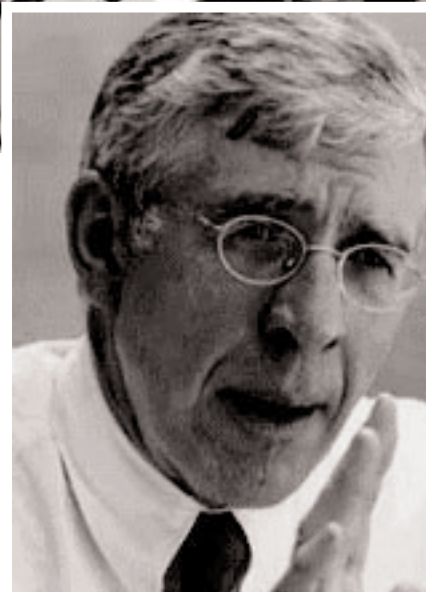
This argument is hardly convincing; isn't the crucifix, an officer's badge or a Rolex watch a symbol of separation?

Our society is full of divisions, notably, the class divisions that divide rich and poor, worker and boss. Jack Straw was not advocating a secular society, where people are free to believe what they want, but religion is kept out of politics and public life. Nor was he championing the importance of working class identity. On the contrary, he was making a reactionary appeal to so called “British” values, and arguing that to be live and work in Britain you must identify with these.

The same vile nationalist politics were used against the anti-war movement when the government declared us traitors for not 'supporting our boys' in the wars the British and Americans are waging in the Middle East.

Provoking violence on the streets

On the streets, the racist comments by the government have prompted violence. In Liverpool a woman's veil was ripped off. In Blackburn, a young



woman was harassed by cries of: “Jack has told you to take that off”.

The right wing press whip up hatred

The government have found their cheerleaders in Britain's right wing press. The same papers, like the Sun, Daily Mail, Telegraph, that have campaigned for the vilification of asylum seekers over the last five years were only too happy to support the attacks on Muslim

people. Most provocatively, the Daily Express claimed that 98% of people wanted the veil banned under a screaming headline that read "BAN IT".

Who benefits?

At the last election, we saw a frenzy of anti-immigration promises and policies from the main parties at the ballot box. The real beneficiaries of the anti-immigration agitation was not Labour or the Tories - it was the BNP. The mainstream parties and press raise the questions of "concern" whether about immigration or Muslims, and in doing so legitimise the racist and fascist politics of the British National Party. In poor white working class estates, left behind by Labour and the Tories, this has led to the British National Party making real headway, claiming to be anti-establishment radicals giving the 'tough' answers that the politicians won't.

Racism and Colonialism

The use of racism by warmongering governments to justify their actions isn't new. Throughout history the rich imperial powers have used racism to justify atrocities abroad, from the slave trade to colonialism.

These governments sought to justify

amongst their own citizens the controlling, killing and enslaving of millions of people across the world by making them think that these people were inferior racially to them. Racism is used to divide the working class and alienate the white workers from their black and Asian brothers and sisters. The Islamophobia we have seen of late is no different. How else could Blair defend sending poor British people over to Iraq to kill poor Iraqi people for no aim but oil and profit? Islamophobia and racism at home are being used to excuse the slaughter in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It is no coincidence that as the War on Terror slips into a deepening crisis, the Islamophobia and racism from the government increases. Popular opinion in the Imperialist heartlands is weighted against Bush and Blair's project in the Middle East. Scapegoating Muslims and creating a climate of fear around the terrorist threat is their last ditch attempt to regain support.

Black and white unite against racism and imperialist war!

By demonising and alienating Muslims, they are also trying to demobilise and divide the anti-war movement at home. A movement that unites youth, trade unions and Muslims, that mobilised

openness and liberalism in order to oppress a religious group and further divide the working class along racist lines. Many feminists and liberals have rallied around the idea of a ban in order to liberate Muslim women from oppression, articulated by Tessa Jowell when she said that "We fought for generations for the equality of women, for women to take their equal place in society. Women who are heavily veiled, whose identity is obscured to the world apart from their husband, cannot take their full place in society."

True enough. But, I don't see these sudden champions of women's oppression doing anything about the gender pay gap or the burden of domestic work. No, this is not about women or religion - it's about racism. Of course, the veil is oppressive but women won't be liberated through being told what to wear. We would defend any woman who wanted to stop wearing a niqab or hijab and was suffering from conservative social pressure to keep herself covered-up, but equally we defend the right of those who want to wear it to do so. Muslim women like, Aishah Azmi who was suspended from her job as a support assistant at a school in Dewsbury for wearing a niqab.

50,000 people on the streets of Manchester in September, is a threat to their project for profit and political domination in the Middle East.

The fight against racism in Britain goes hand in hand with the struggle against the war in the Middle East. The imperialist system, due to its need to expand and make profit, is killing Iraqis in their thousands with one hand, while it creates racism and a climate of fear in the West as a smokescreen to cover up the carnage in the Middle East.

It is through this struggle against imperialist war and racism that Muslims will be truly integrated into society. The anti-war movement which included many Muslims as well and white workers and youth did more for integration than government policies and legislation around multi-culturalism or banning the headscarf could ever do. White and Muslim workers have more in common with each other than with any member of the ruling class, whatever their race. Asian, black and white workers must fight alongside each other against the war, against police harassment, racist laws and the BNP and the system which is at the root of all these problems - Capitalism.

We say for the right to wear and the right not to wear! Muslim women will be liberated through struggle against oppression and war and for a socialist society!

By Rebecca in Manchester



For the right to wear and the right not to wear!

Jack Straw said in October that the veil was "such a visible statement of separation and of difference" that it was "bound to make better, positive relations between the two communities more difficult", and that he had been asking women who attended his surgery to remove their veils. His Labour colleagues and the media have come out in defence of Straw's comments. Blair, Brown and Blears have all said that they support in him raising it and that it is a constituency rather than a national issue. But this isn't true, the media backlash against Muslims that was instigated by Straw's comments meant that we now live in an even more Islamophobic society, where women's veils are ripped from their faces on the streets.

This wasn't just an off-hand comment by Straw, it was a calculated attack on the Muslim community that plays on ideas of

IRAQ: OCCUPATION IN CRISIS

As the situation in Iraq continues to worsen and become more violent, it is becoming harder and harder for those responsible for the occupation to spread the lie that all is well. In fact last week the army chief, General Sir Richard Dannatt, advised that the troops should leave "soon", while in the US the Republicans have suffered humiliating reversals in the mid-term elections, losing control of both the Senate and House of Representatives and reflecting Bush's unpopularity over the war in Iraq.

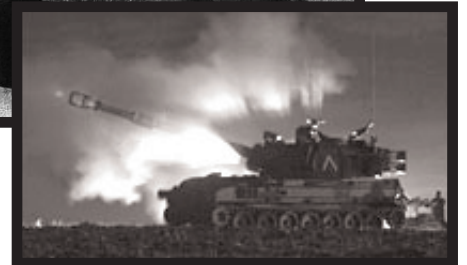
as a new poll shows that 74% of Shia and 91% of Sunni want troops out, and similar proportions approve of attacks on US-led forces.

The insurgents, far from being "terrorists" remote from the rest of the population, are in reality very popular, with growing support, for the obvious reason that Iraqis are becoming more and more enraged by the presence of troops and their atrocities. The Iraqi government's

legitimacy took another knock last week:

Both militias are growing stronger because they provide a sense of security to the communities terrified of further killings. The Coalition troops, who in reality control only small and shrinking strips of land, are completely impotent in preventing this violence. For example, intense fighting has raged in the Balad area north of Baghdad, even though this is close to one of Iraq's largest US bases.

The Coalition troops have occupied and plundered Iraq and are now standing by as it tears itself to



Even the Army Times newspaper called for Donald Rumsfeld's resignation as Defence Secretary just before the crucial elections. They accused him of having lost credibility with the troops and the public - hardly surprising when around 100 American soldiers are dying every month. Sure enough, when all the votes were counted and it was clear the Republicans had lost, Rumsfeld's position became untenable and he resigned.

The number of US deaths pale in comparison with Iraqi casualties: at least 3,000 are dying every month and an estimated 1.5 million have fled their homes as the country slips further and further into civil war. The claim that the Iraqis "want the troops there" has been exposed yet again

it was yet again exposed as a puppet regime of the imperialists when the Iraqi prime minister Nouri al-Maliki admitted that he could not move a company of Iraqi troops without US permission.

These troops have long claimed to be staying in the country to prevent a civil war, but it is evident that they have now caused one by their presence and their "divide and rule" tactics. Baghdad is largely surrounded by Sunni tribes, controlling most of the routes into the city and trying to drive out the Shia forces, such as the Mehdi army, which control certain districts within Baghdad. It is hugely dangerous for a Sunni to enter a Shia area, or vice versa, and tribes that used to contain members of both religious sects are now being split down the middle.

shreds. There is absolutely no justification for their presence.

REVOLUTION calls for the immediate withdrawal of these murderous troops and stands in solidarity with the fighters heroically resisting them. We campaign for a united resistance in Iraq and condemn all sectarian killings. In these desperate times it becomes all the more urgent that the organised working class in the Iraqi trade unions join the resistance to US occupation. It is only the working class, by cutting across religious and ethnic divisions, which can unite the Iraqi masses in a progressive struggle against imperialism and capitalism.

By Nat, Leeds

a verdict made in america....



What a surprise. Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi dictator whose regime was overthrown in the US/UK invasion in 2003, has been found guilty of crimes against humanity and sentenced to death by hanging. The fact that his guilt was absolutely self evident- thousands upon thousands had been massacred by his regime- does not hide the gross hypocrisy of those that have sent him to the gallows.

As Iraq burns under the brutality of the occupation and growing sectarian violence in Baghdad under the protection of the US forces an "independent" court assembled (over 600,000 killed since the occupation began in 2003 according to the Lancet medical journal). The so called "sovereign" government of Iraq came to power in elections in which support for the occupation was a pre-condition of participation. In the same spirit the court in Iraq had only thread bare vestiges of "independence".

The team of lawyers defending Saddam Hussein were forbidden from raising issues or submitting evidence that could be embarrassing to the occupying authorities. Notably, this excluded Hussein from talking about the close links he had with the United States in the 1980s and, in particular, his relationship then with Donald Rumsfeld, the recently resigned American Defence Secretary.

Indeed, the crime for which he will now die was a massacre of 148 Shias in the southern town of Dujail in 1982 following an attempted assassination attempt. Undoubtedly, a disgusting act, it however pales in comparison to the 180,000 Kurds he exterminated in the great acts of ethnic cleansing of 1987 and 1988. Why was this charge not brought against him? Because the United States government would have to explain why they provided him the "Dual-Use Chemical and Biological Exports" used to carry out the massacre.

In many ways Saddam Hussein is a product of US foreign policy; a staunch anti-communist and anti-Islamist, his war on Iran in the 1980s was heralded by US foreign policy makers as providing the opportunity to shift the balance of

power in the Middle East and curb the rise of political Islam.

How ironic it is that some twenty years later religious sectarianism and fundamentalism are growing exponentially under the US/UK occupation of Iraq. The regime in Iran, still a big enemy of Washington, has attracted significant political support from Arab masses across the region for its refusal to submit to US and European pressure to curb its nuclear programme. It also provided material and political support for the Hezbollah militia fighters that were able to successfully repel the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in the summer.

For all the hue and cry about terrorism and Al Qaeda the truth is that the "war on terror" was always conceived as being a central component of the euphemistically titled "Project for a New American Century": an aggressive economic, diplomatic and military policy that was designed to maintain the long term strategic interests of US and their status as the world's richest and most powerful state.

Far from being about morals and ethics this project subordinates all such issues to the naked pursuit of money, power and oil. The military dictatorship in Pakistan is heralded as a "source of stability" and "ally in the fight against terrorism" and fraudulent elections in Mexico as "legitimate". As Saddam Hussein shows there is nothing new in this - the United States had just such a policy in the 1980s too.

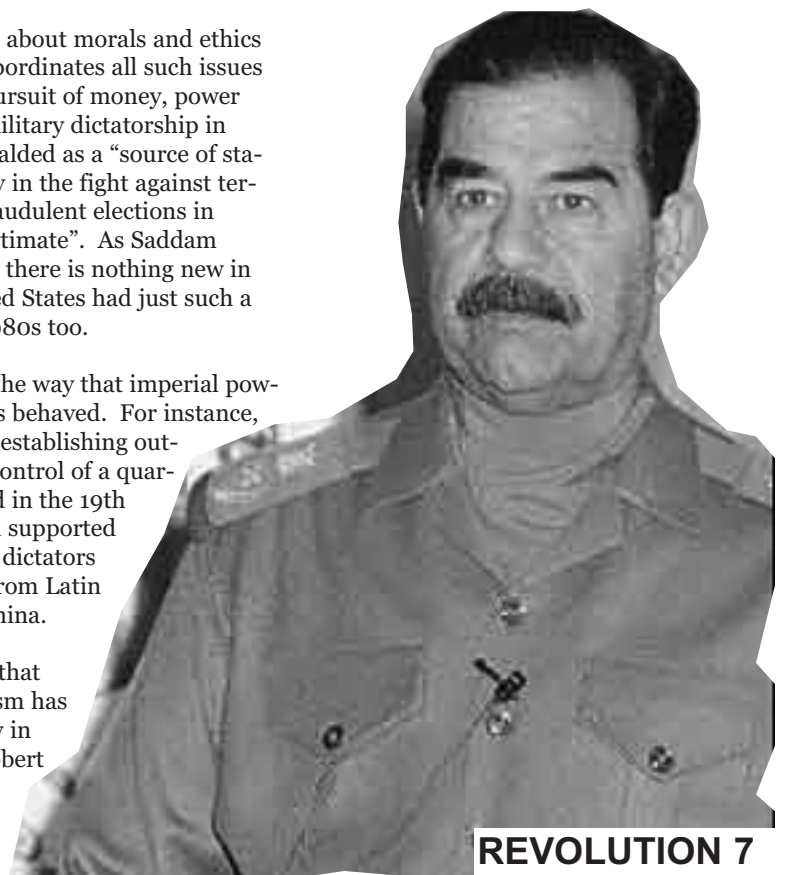
In fact, this is the way that imperial powers have always behaved. For instance, when it wasn't establishing outright colonial control of a quarter of the world in the 19th century Britain supported various tin pot dictators and warlords from Latin American to China.

Today, in Iraq that same colonialism has left the country in despair. As Robert Fisk from The Independent puts it -

"... Iraq is now swamped with mass murderers, guilty of rape and massacres and throat slitting and torture in the years since our "liberation" of Iraq. Many work for the Iraqi government we are supporting, democratically elected, of course. And these war criminals, in some cases, are paid by us, through the ministries we set up under the democratic government. And they will not be tried. Or hanged. That is the extent of our cynicism. And our shame. Have ever justice and hypocrisy been so obscenely joined."

Too true. But, in addition, we should remember that this war has been a disaster for US and UK imperialism. They face defeat in both Iraq and Afghanistan. This will be a huge blow to the future continuation of permanent war against the world's people. Clearly, it is as vital today, as it was in the early 20th century, to rally millions of workers and poor in struggle against imperialism and capitalism.

By Luke, Leeds



REVOLUTION 7

huge demonstration says "STOP CLIMATE CHANGE!"

November 4th saw up to 50,000 people take part in the Campaign Against Climate Change's (CACC) annual demonstration. It was the biggest ever demonstration on an environmental issue in Britain.

The demonstration was loud, lively and included people from across the country. There is a growing realisation of the need to stop climate change. But, there was also a lot of confusion about what to on display; some placards called for a "green tax" while others, bizarrely, said "trees don't commit rape"(!)

The demonstration was timed to occur one week after the publishing of the 700 page Stern report that warns of the economic impact climate change would have on the world. This report signified that large sections of the ruling class are waking up to the dangers of climate change. It was commissioned by Gordon Brown and supported by Al Gore in an effort to convince the Bush administration that climate change poses a serious threat.

Stern, Brown and Gore spoke to Bush and Cheney in the only language that all of them understand: profit. The Stern report warned of a 20% shrinking in the global economy in the next few decades if no action is taken to stop climate change. It also suggested a programme of investment, which could limit the effects of climate change. Despite the initial expense of this scheme, it would ultimately save the bosses and the state money.

The Stern report is based on the liberal utopia that capitalist economies can be perfectly rationally controlled. The truth is that they can't - they demand the constant generation of new markets and opportunities for investment, in order to make a profit. Today, in a world economy in which many big companies are struggling, the big oil producers are by contrast making record profits out of the environmental meltdown we face.

The Kyoto Protocol on climate change was agreed in

1997, but only came into force in 2005 - and even then the US has not supported it. If this wasn't bad enough, it is widely reported that very few countries are meeting the very limited goals set out in this deal.

The bottom line is that almost every scientist, politician and economist who accepts that climate change exists acknowledges that since the Industrial Revolution global temperatures have been rising. This means that the way in which we organise production today under a system of global capitalism is having a damaging effect on the environment.

This leads some radical ecologists to say that our very existence is a negative thing and causes many liberals, anarchists and ecologists to propose a more "small scale" system of production, rather than one based on industry. Some people even cite the problem as being too many people.

Each of these ideas is wrong and reactionary because they all seek to put humanity's future at the mercy of nature rather than use the scientific progress we have made to the benefit of all. We need to link the struggle against human suffering to the struggle to save our environment. By expropriating the property of the tiny minority of capitalists who control the economy and live in incredible wealth, we can stop the environmental catastrophe.

So, we don't need capitalism with wind turbines. This won't stop climate change. Only the replacement of the chaotic, short-sighted market system of production with socialism can hold a lasting solution. This means organising industry on the basis of a democratically decided plan which takes into account the needs of humanity as a whole, in order to eradicate poverty and social hardship, while at the same time ensuring that this development is environmentally sustainable.

By Josh, Manchester

WHAT WE STAND FOR

The Independent on Sunday got it right in an "expose" of REVOLUTIONs involvement in organising May Day 2001. It said: "REVOLUTION wants to build a revolutionary socialist mass movement and overthrow capitalism." Exactly right. We are opposed to capitalism and the misery, alienation, war and environmental destruction it creates.

We fight all forms of discrimination and oppression, whether on grounds of sex, race, nationality or sexuality.

Capitalism is a global system, so we have to fight it globally. We want to smash the borders and divisions of nations and move forward to a truly global and united humanity, without bigotry, war and class division. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our sisters and brothers in the Third World struggling to break free of the trillion dollar debt, the IMF, WTO and NATO.

We are socialists - we want to abolish capitalism and replace it with a planned economy. But we do not believe that the capitalist elite will allow their wealth and privilege to be voted out of existence. We believe it will take force to take the power and property away from the few and redistribute into the hands of the many - that means a revolution!

REVO wants young people to participate in radical politics and organise themselves. Young people can be very radical and militant, the anti war movement proved that. They should take a lead in the movement that will shape the struggle for the future.

We believe a mass movement must be built based on the support of the majority of the people - the working class. It is the working class that produces all the wealth in this society. The working class has no interest in keeping capitalism going. Only the working class has the power, the size and the traditions of organisation to bring this rotten system crashing down.

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